

Message Text

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ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 IGA-02 CEA-02 STR-08 IO-12 SR-02

ORM-03 AGR-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02

LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 RSR-01 /229 W
----- 100139

R 180842 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3980

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

USDEL JEC PARIS

S E C R E T TOKYO 6227

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, VS, JA

SUBJ: COOPER' S DISCUSSIONS IN TOKYO ON AID TO SVN WITH
FONOFF OFFICIALS

REF: STATE 91101 NOTAL

SUMMARY: COOPER HELD USEFUL, WIDE- RANGING AND DETAILED
DISCUSSIONS WITH KEY FONOFF OFFICIALS ON AID TO SVN AND
SITUATION IN SVN BEFORE IMPORTANT FONOFF CONFERENCE ON
INDOCHINA. OFFICIALS APPRECIATIVE OF USG WILLINGNESS
ACCEPT IBRD/ ADB INVITATION TO PARIS DONORS' MEETING. NEXT
STEP APPEARS TO BE ISSUANCE OF INVITATIONS BY BANK. VICE
MINISTER HOGEN STRESSED DESIRE GOJ COOPERATE FULLY
IN DEVELOPMENT SVN. COOPER EXPRESSED STRONG HOPE THAT GOJ
WOULD BE FULL PARTNER IN PROPOSED CG. ALSO EMPHASIZED SVN' S
NEED FOR SUBSTANTIAL GOJ CONTRIBUTION IN AID DURING NEXT
CRUCIAL TWO YEARS. END SUMMARY.

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1. ON MORNING MAY 17, COOPER MET AT FONOFF WITH HOGEN, VICE MINISTER, AND YOSHIDA, DIRECTOR- GENERAL, AXBAN AFFAIRS BUREAU, AND SEPARATELY WITH MIKANAGI, DIRECTOR- GENERAL, AND KIKUCHI, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR- GENERAL, ECONOMIC COOPERATION BUREAU. MEETINGS PRECEDED OPENING IN AFTERNOON OF CONFERENCE INVOLVING JAPANESE AMBASSADORS TO INDOCHINESE STATES TO DISCUSS FULT RANGE JAPANESE RELATIONS WITH INDOCHINA. DISCUSSIONS COVERED FOLLOWING TOPICS

2. CG FOR SVN. HOGEN OPENED DISCUSSION WITH LENGTHY REVIEW OF DEVELOPMENT OF JAPANESE POSITION ON MULTILATERAL ORGANIZATION OF AID TO SVN ALONG LINES ALREADY FAMILIAR TO WASHINGTON. FOLTOWING HOGEN' S FINAL POINT THAT GOJ NEEDED FOR DOMESTIC POLITICAL REASONS DONORS' MEETING ON AID TO INDOCHINA BEFORE MOVING TO CG FOR SVN, COOPER INFORMED HOGEN THAT WE UNDERSTOOD GOJ POSITION AND WERE PREPARED TO ACCEPT IBRD/ ADB INVITATION TO DONORS' MEETING. AFTER EXPRESSING APPRECIATION OF USG WILLINGNESS PARTICIPATE IN MEETING, HOGEN EMPHASIZED GOJ DESIRE COOPERATE FULLY WITH USG IN DEMELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR SVN.

3. SIMILAR DISCUSSION TOOK PLACE WITH MIKANAGI WHOSE RECITATION OF RECENT EVOLUTION OF CONCEPT PARALLELLED GOODMAN- NOOTER DISCUSSION IN REFTEL, PARA 4. MIKANAOKI SAID GOJ WOULD RESPOND AFFIRMATIVELY TO IBRD/ ADB INVITATION TO DONORS' MEETING IN PARIS. NEXT STEP, THEREFORE, IS UP TO IBRD/ ADB.

4. CG FOR LAOS? MIKANAGI INFORMED COOPER OF ONE NEW ASPECT OF JAPANESE DISCUSSIONS ON AID TO INDOCHINA CONCEPT. HE SAID THAT AT ADB MEETING IN MANILA HE INQUIRED OF RLG MINISTER SISOUK IF RTG WOULD BE INTERESTED IN FORMATION CG AS POSSIBLE OUTCOME OF DONORS' MEETING. SISOUK EXPRESSED INTEREST IN IDEA AND SAID HE WOULD DISCUSS IT WITH PRESIDENT INOUE OF ADB. MIKANAGI DID NOT KNOW IF SISOUK HAD DONE SO. HE OBSERVED THAT RLG SEEMED MORE FAVORABLY DISPOSED TOWARD ADB THAN IBRD.

5. SVN' S NEED FOR AID. FONOFF OFFICIATS QUERIED COOPER ON HIS VIEWS OF SVN NEED FOR AID. COOPER TOOK THEME THAT SVN HAS SUFFERED CONSIDERABLE FOREIGN EXCHANGE LOSS AS RESULT DECLINE IN DOD SPENDING WHICH USG UNABLE TO REPLACE WITH AID. SITUATION COMES AT TIME OF CEASE- FIRE WHEN SVN NEEDS SUBSTANTIAL AND CRUCIAL INPUT ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE OVER NEXT TWO YEARS TO ENABLE
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IT INITIATE DEVELOPMENT MOMENTUM, INCLUDING RETURN OF SOME MILLION REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS TO PRODUCTIVE WORK. COOPER EXPRESSED STRONG HOPE THAT GOJ WOULD PLAY ROLE OF FULL PARTNER IN RECONSTRUCTION AID DEVELOPMENT OF SVN. FONOFF OFFICIALS WERE MOST INTERESTED IN LEVEL USO ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PLANNED THIS YEAR. COOPER REPLIED THAT AID BILL HAD JUST BEEN INTRODUCED IN CONGRESS, AND EVENTUAL US AID LEVEL WOULD

DEPEND ON CONGRESSIONAL APPROPRIATION.

6. POSSIBLE SVN PRESENTATION OF AID NEEDS IN TOKYO. COOPER INQUIRED OF MIKANAGI IF IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR SVN OFFICIALS VISIT TOKYO TO MAKE PRESENTATION OF AID NEEDS. MIKANAGI THOUGHT IT WOULD BE AND SAID THAT HE HAD TALKED ABOUT THIS WITH GVN MINFINANCE TRUNG IN MANILA, AS HAD KIKUCHI LATER IN SAIGON. JAPANESE FELT THAT CABINET- LEVEL VISIT WOULD CAUSE PROTEST FROM POLITICAL OPPOSITION BUT THAT VISIT ON SUB- CABINET LEVEL WOULD BE DESIRABLE. WHILE TIMING NOT FIXED, THEY THOUGHT IT COULD TAKE PLACE IN NEAR FUTURE.

7. SVN EXPENDITURES ON NON- ESSENTIALS. HOGEN REFERRED TO GOJ CONCERN OVER WHAT APPEARS TO BE EASILY AVAILABLE CONSUMER PRODUCTS WHICH IN LIGHT SVN' S SITUATION, SEEMS INAPPROPRIATE AND WASTEFUL. COOPER ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THIS SITUATION HAD ARISEN IN LATTER PART OF ' SIXTIES, BUT THAT EXCESSIVE CONSUMER SPENDING WAS BEING SQUEEZED OUT. AID EMPHASIS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TOWARDS INCREASING PRODUCTIVITY OF PEOPLE, INCLUDING RESETTLEMENT REFUGEES.

8. ORGANIZATION OF GVN FOR DEVELOPMENT. KIKUNHIBN WHO HAD RECENTLY SPENT WEEK IN SAIGON, SAID HE THOUGHT GVN NEEDED ECONOMIC CZAR. IT WAS VERY DIFFICULT TO FIND OUT WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT. HE QUESTIONED GVN ABILITY HANDLE LARGE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM EFFECTIVELY. COOPER COMMENTED THAT ORGANIZATION OF GVN FOR DEVELOPMENT WAS A PROBLEM. IN PAST, GVN' S ATTENTION HAD BEEN FULLY FOCUSSED ON WAR, AND USG WAS DOMINANT ECONOMIC ORGANIZATION, THESE SITUATIONS WERE CHANGING. IN ADDITION, OVER PAST TEN YEARS, A NEW TYPE OF VIETNAMESE OFFICIAL HAD ARISEN TO POSITIONS OF INFLUENCE, TECHNOCRATS WHO WERE WILLING TO TACKLE PROBLEMS, NOT AVOID THEM. THEIR IMPACT HAD ALREADY BEEN FELT ON ECONOMIC POLICY LEVET. COOPER ANTICIPATED STRONGER, MORE EFFECTIVE ACTION

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ON PART GVN IN DEVELOPMENT EFFORT IN NEXT YEAR OR TWO DUE TO THEIR GROWING NUMBERS AND INFLUENCE.

9. MISCELLANY. IN ADDITION TO ABOVE TOPICS, QUESTIONS RANGED OVER WIDE VARIETY SUBJECTS FROM PROSPECTS FOR DEMOBILIZATION, SECURITY IN THE PROVINCES AND HIGHLANDS, NVN INFILTRATION, AND ATTITUDES OF PEOPLE TOWARD THIEU GOVERNMENT. INGERSOLL

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